GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:43
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
SHORTAGE OF SPECIALIST DOCTORS
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of specialist doctors in various disciplines are being felt in various Central Government hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take some steps to meet this shortage;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 43 FOR 7TH JULY, 2004

The requirement of specialists in Central Government hospitals in the country is met out of Teaching and Non-Teaching Specialist sub-cadres of the Central Health Service. These two sub-cadres have a sanctioned strength of 1484 specialists, out of which 1144 posts are filled up at present and 315 posts are vacant.

With a view to down sizing the Government, the Department of Personnel & Training vide their O.M. No. 2/8/2001-PIC dated 16.5.2001, instructed all the Departments to limit the direct recruitment to 1/3rd of the vacancies arising in the year subject to a further ceiling that does not exceed 1% of the total sanctioned strength of the Department. For Group 'A' posts, the annual recruitment plan in this regard to be cleared by a Screening Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary.

As it would be difficult to apply the above guidelines for vacancies in the health sector, particularly those of specialists, the Department of Health has taken up the matter at the highest level seeking exemption of technical/scientific posts (which includes all CHS posts) from the purview of DOPT instructions dated 16.5.2001.